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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/615,673 | 07/08/2003 | Jeffrey W. Moe | 104874-142119 | 9826 |
| 7590 | 10/05/2004 | | EXAMINER | |
| Goodwin Procter LLP 599 Lexington Avenue New York, NY 10022 | | | | DINH, TIEN QUANG |
| | | ART UNIT | | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | 3644 | | |

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/615,673 | MOE ET AL. |
| | Examiner Tien Dinh | Art Unit 3644 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 14, 15 and 17-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/28/03</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of group I and species A in the reply filed on 7/13/04 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Claims 14, 15, and 17-20 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected group I and species A, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in the reply filed on 7/13/04.

The Examiner would like to point out that claims 14 and 15 do no read upon the elected species.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 10, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 10, "the nacelle highlight" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 12, "the inlet lip of the nacelle" lacks antecedent basis.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-9 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hom or Mnich et al in view of Dean et al.

Hom or Mnich et al discloses an acoustic panel having a solid back skin, acoustically permeable front skin, and a honeycomb cell structure. However, Hom or Mnich et al is silent on the ice protection system and the insulation element. However, Dean et al teach an ice protection system that has an acoustically permeable and electrically and thermally conductive structure and insulation elements are well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have used an ice protection system (being wire meshes and made out of metal, which can includes steel) and the insulation element in Hom or Mnich et al's system as taught by Dean et al to protect the aircraft from ice. Please note that the acoustic panels can be used in any parts of the aircraft including the nacelle.

Claimd 10-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hom or Mnich et al's system as modified by Dean et al as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kugelman or Volkner et al.

Hom or Mnich et al's system as modified by Dean et al discloses all claimed parts except for the parting strip and selectively or sequentially operating sections of the ice protection system. However, Kugelman or Volkner et al teaches that parting strips and selectively or sequentially operating sections of the ice protection systems are well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time the invention was made to have used parting strips and selectively or sequentially operating sections of the ice protection system in Hom or Mnich et al's system as modified by Dean et al and as taught by Kugelman or Volkner et al to efficiently and effectively prevent ice.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Ely et al, Cowdrey et al, Ford et al, Adams, Boyd et al, and Ingram et al disclose de-icing means.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tien Dinh whose telephone number is 703-308-2798. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone can be reached on 703-306-4198. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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